

House Resolution 429

By: Representatives Williams of the 168th, Smyre of the 135th, Bennett of the 94th, and Hugley of the 136th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending and recognizing the 25th anniversary of the Eleven Black Men of Liberty
- 2 County, Inc.; and for other purposes.

- 3 WHEREAS, Eleven Black Men of Liberty County, Inc., accepted the challenge of working
- 4 with 16 young ninth grade men (transcenders) to assist in preparing them for a more
- 5 productive future; and

- 6 WHEREAS, in 1991, this pilot program was introduced to show the necessity of taking full
- 7 advantage of academic opportunity and to make the transcenders fully aware of their
- 8 responsibilities to their community and country because it is important for young men to
- 9 know that it is good to have lofty ambitions and aspirations of success; and

- 10 WHEREAS, eight of the 16 initial transcenders finished the program, six entered college, and
- 11 two entered the military; and

- 12 WHEREAS, in 1996, a second group of transcenders was selected from middle school
- 13 students, and of the 20 young men, 14 completed the program, six entered college, three
- 14 entered the military, and four are gainfully employed; two young men were added by special
- 15 request, and one is a graduate from Albany State University and the other completed
- 16 Savannah Technical College and joined the United States Navy; and

- 17 WHEREAS, in 2003, the third group of transcenders was selected, and these four young men
- 18 completed the program in 2009; two of them enrolled at Fort Valley State University, and
- 19 one enrolled at Armstrong Atlantic State University; and

- 20 WHEREAS, in 2005, three additional transcenders were selected to the program; one new
- 21 transgender was selected in 2006, and another was selected in 2008; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2010, two additional transcoders were selected to the program; one is
23 currently a sophomore at Georgia Southern University, and the other is gainfully employed,
24 with plans to enter college; and

25 WHEREAS, between 2011 and 2014, several transcoders graduated from high school and
26 college, and one entered the United States Navy; in 2016, one new transgender was selected
27 into the program, bringing the total number of transcoders to nine in grades eight through
28 12; and

29 WHEREAS, two transcoders graduated from high school in 2017; one enrolled at Valdosta
30 State University, and the other is in the work force; and

31 WHEREAS, the objectives of Eleven Black Men of Liberty County, Inc., are that, by the end
32 of their senior year of high school, transcoders will be well-rounded and prepared to enter
33 the college, university, or technical college of their choice, and that, if advanced education
34 is not their immediate desire, they will be adequately prepared to enter the military or job
35 market with marketable skills such as articulation, a strong work ethic, commitment, and
36 responsibility; and

37 WHEREAS, currently, there are ten transcoders enrolled; five of them are juniors, one is
38 a sophomore, and four of them are in middle school; and

39 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that Eleven Black Men of Liberty County,
40 Inc., be commended and recognized for helping young men prepare for life after high school.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
42 the members of this body commend and recognize Eleven Black Men of Liberty County,
43 Inc., upon the grand occasion of its 25th anniversary.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
45 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
46 Eleven Black Men of Liberty County, Inc.